

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 EUR-12
ISO-00 OIC-02 L-03 IOE-00 /046 W
-----021226 111079 /12
P 021211Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0162

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 06086

NESCO

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: AORG, OCON, PORG, CSCE, UNESCO
SUBJECT: REGIONAL CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN NATIONAL
COMMISSIONS FOR UNESCO, HELSINKI,
APRIL 18-24, 1977

REF: PARIS 02749

1. FURTHER TO PARAGRAPH 4 OF REFTTEL, DEPUTY PERMREP
HELD CONSULTATIONS RE SUBJECT CONFERENCE WITH PERMDELS
OF SWEDEN, FINLAND, NORWAY, NETHERLANDS, FRANCE, FRG,
CANADA, AND UK. FOLLOWING REPRESENTS LATEST ASSESSMENT
OF THE SITUATION:

(A) IT IS GENERALLY ASSUMED THAT THE CONFERENCE WILL
BE MORE POLITICAL THAN USUAL, I.E. PRESENCE OF ISRAEL,
PROXIMITY OF THE BELGRADE MEETING ON CSCE FOLLOW-UP,
AND THE SOVIET SPECIAL INTEREST IN AGENDA ITEM SEVEN
(UNESCO AND CSCE), FOR WHICH THEY ARE PREPARING A BACK-
GROUND PAPER -- ALL THIS IS BEING CITED AS WARNING
SIGNALS FOR THINGS TO COME;

(B) FRANCE (BRUNSWICK), WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE
JANUARY PREPARATORY MEETING IN HELSINKI, BELIEVES THE
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CONFERENCE WILL PROVIDE AN EXAMPLE OF THE EASTERN
EUROPEAN NATIONAL COMMISSIONS (I.E. GOVERNMENTS)
APPROACH TO BELGRADE CSCE FOLLOW-UP TALKS. IN THIS
CONNECTION, THE FRENCH DO NOT EXCLUDE POSSIBILITY OF
EE'S USING APRIL CONFERENCE AS A FORUM FOR LAUNCHING
COMPLAINTS, ACCUSING THE WEST OF "POISONING THE
ATMOSPHERE" BY TRYING TO EXPOSE HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

IN EE COUNTRIES;

(C) DUTCH (AS WELL AS FRG AND FRANCE) STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF ITEM EIGHT OF THE AGENDA (I.E. COMMISSIONS' ROLE IN THE EVALUATION AND PREPARATION OF UNESCO'S PROGRAM, INCLUDING FORMULATION OF PROPOSALS FOR FUTURE UNESCO PROGRAMS). THEY FEEL THAT EE'S MAY COME UP WITH THEIR GRAND DESIGN FOR UNESCO'S "PEACE PROGRAM" (OBJECTIVES 1 AND 2 OF 19 C/4), STRESSING SUCH USUAL THEMES AS STRUGGLE AGAINST RACISM, COLONIALISM, NEO-COLONIALISM, ETC.; AID TO NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS; "IRREVERSIBILITY OF DETENTE", ETC.;

(D) FRG ALSO FELT THAT ATTEMPTS WOULD BE MADE OF LINKING "POLITICAL DETENTE" WITH "MILITARY DETENTE", PARTICULARLY IN THE CONTEXT OF FUTURE UNESCO INFORMATION PROGRAM.

2. SUBJECT CONFERENCE WAS ALSO DISCUSSED AT SOME LENGTH AT LAST WEEK'S UNESCO EC-9 MEETING HERE. UK SOURCE SUMMED UP MEETING'S GENERAL SENTIMENT AS "LET'S BE PREPARED FOR ALL EVENTUALITIES". HE ALSO CONFIRMED THAT MANY WESTERN COUNTRIES ARE PLANNING TO BEEF

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UP THE POLITICAL SIDE OF THEIR DELEGATIONS IN ORDER TO COPE WITH SUCH EVENTUALITIES. MOST EC-9 COUNTRIES ARE SENDING POLITICAL TYPES FROM LOCAL PERMDELS OR, IN UK CASE, FROM FOREIGN OFFICE. LOCAL EC-9 PLANNING ANOTHER

MEETING ONCE CONFERENCE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS BECOME AVAILABLE (I.E. AFTER MARCH 15).

3. IN ACCORDANCE WITH ESTABLISHED PROCEDURE, DELEGATIONS OF NATIONAL COMMISSIONS TAKING PART IN THE CONFERENCE WILL BE HEADED BY THEIR CHAIRMEN AND SHOULD COMPRISE MAXIMUM OF FIVE MEMBERS. THE DELEGATIONS MAY, HOWEVER, BE ACCOMPANIED BY AS MANY EXPERTS AND ADVISERS AS DEEMED NECESSARY. THE DELEGATIONS' LISTS, INCLUDING HOTEL RESERVATIONS, SHOULD REACH THE FINNISH NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR UNESCO (THE HOST), WITH A COPY TO UNESCO SECRETARIAT, NOT LATER THAN MARCH 10, 1977.

4. DEPARTMENT'S AND NATIONAL COMMISSION'S GUIDANCE, INCLUDING TIMELY DECISION ON COMPOSITION OF U.S. DELEGATION, URGENTLY REQUESTED. (FYI: SUBJECT TO DEPT'S DISPOSITION, DEPUTY PERMREP IS AVAILABLE TO ATTEND SUBJECT CONFERENCE.)
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